

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) An output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting data in a specific format, which is sent from the data processing device, driver software for controlling the output device being included in the data processing device, and comprising:

a first controller for receiving a print request and determining whether the print request instructs data to be sent to the output device via a printer driver or to be directly sent to the output device so as to bypass the printer driver; and

a second controller responsive to said first controller for calling an illegal printing preventing function incorporated into the printer driver if said print request instructs data to be sent to the output device via the printer driver, and for prohibiting said data from being sent to the output device if said print request instructs data to be sent to the output device so as to bypass the printer driver.

2. (Currently Amended) An output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting data in a specific format, which is sent from the data processing device, driver software for controlling the output device being included in the data processing device, and comprising:

a first data modifier for modifying data processed by the driver software that is to be output by said output device, provided on the data processing device; and

a second data modifier provided on the output device that performs complementary modification on all data received at the output device that is to be output by the output device, regardless of whether the received data has been modified by said first modifier, such that received data processed by the driver software is returned to its unmodified form and other received data remains modified.

3. (Previously Presented) An output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting data in a specific format, which is sent from the data processing device, driver software for controlling the output device being included in the data processing device, and comprising:

a prohibiting controller for prohibiting data bypassing said driver software to be output to the output device, but allowing data passing the driver software to be output to the output device, by setting a value which is different from an ordinary value for outputting data to the output device, in response to a data output request to the output device from the data processing device.

4. (Original) An output system as described in claim 3, wherein said setting is a value stored to a specific register.

5. (Previously Presented) An output method used in an output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting data in a specific format, which is sent from the data processing device, comprising:

determining whether a print request instructs data to be sent to the output device from the data processing device via printer driver software incorporated in the data processing device or to be directly sent to the output device so as to bypass the printer driver software; and

prohibiting data from being sent to output device if said print request instructs data to be sent to the output so as to bypass the printer driver software.

6. (Currently Amended) An output method used in an output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting data in a specific format, which is sent from the data processing device, comprising:

modifying data that is to be output by said output device and that is processed by driver software included in the data processing device, on the data processing device side; and

performing complementary modification of data received at the output device side that is to be output by said output device, regardless of whether the data

is received via the driver software, such that received data processed by the driver software is returned to its unmodified form and other received data remains modified.

7. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium for storing a program run on an output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting in a specific format data sent from the data processing device, said program comprising steps of:

determining whether a print request instructs data to be sent to the output device from the data processing device via printer driver software incorporated in the data processing device or to be directly sent to the output device so as to bypass the printer driver software; and

prohibiting data from being sent to output device if said print request instructs data to be sent to the output so as to bypass the printer driver software.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium for storing a program run on a data processing device for sending data to an output device for outputting in a specific format, comprising steps of:

modifying output data from an application program run on the data processing device that is to be output by said output device, and

performing a complementary modification on all data received at the output device that is to be output by said output device, regardless of the source of the data, such that modified data received from the application program is returned to its unmodified form, and all other received data remains modified.

9. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium for storing a program run on a data processing device for sending data to an output device for outputting in a specific format, comprising steps of:

encrypting output data from an application program run on the data processing device, and

outputting the encrypted data to the output device, wherein the encrypting step sets a specific password for output data from the application program.

10. (Canceled)

11. (New) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9, wherein said specific password is applied to said encrypted data for transmission to said output device.